Mountain Weather Forecast

Southwest Highlands

Including Ben Nevis, Glen Coe and the rest of Lochaber, Argyll including the Isles, Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Arran
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 22 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Saturday 23 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Friday 22 Dec 2023 at 05:35 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for changeable and often windy conditions on Friday and over the weekend. Lower confidence on the timing of transition from colder to milder weather on Friday night.

Headline for Friday 22 Dec 2023: Rather cloudy with rain or sleet showers at lower levels and snow on munros. Very cold and windy.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 22 Dec 2023

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow
Precipitation probability					
70%	50%	50%	50%	50%	80%

Forecast for Friday 22 Dec 2023

Weather: Rather cloudy with rain or sleet showers, snow above about 800 to 900m. The showers will be most frequent over Glencoe and Lochaber with fewer showers across Trossachs. More persistent rain with snow above 800m spreading eastwards during evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% but little chance during evening.

Low Cloud and visibility: Good visibility between showers with occasional cloud cover about 700 to 900m. Poor visibility as wintry showers come along with more extensive cloud cover lower down the hills.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Forecast for Friday 22 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	50/58 W	53/61 NW	52/62 NW	44/54 NW	37/45 W	36/42 W	46/53 SW
900	33/40 W	34/41 NW	34/42 NW	29/38 NW	24/31 W	17/22 W	23/30 W
600	31/37 W	34/40 W	33/39 W	27/35 W	20/26 W	15/19 SW	17/22 W
300	22/28 NW	20/27 NW	20/26 NW	18/26 NW	12/16 NW	6/9 S	8/12 NW
Glen	9/23 W	8/21 W	9/23 W	10/23 W	6/14 W	2/6 SW	4/10 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
1300	-1/-11	-2/-13	-3/-14	-3/-14	-3/-13	-2/-12	0/-9
900	1/-7	1/-7	-0/-9	-1/-9	-1/-8	-0/-6	1/-5
600	4/-3	3/-4	2/-6	2/-6	1/-5	2/-3	3/-2
300	6/1	5/0	4/-1	4/-2	4/-1	4/1	5/2
Glen	8/5	7/5	6/4	6/3	6/4	5/4	6/4
Freezing Level*	1100m	1000m	800m	800m	800m	900m	1500m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Very difficult walking conditions due to combination of low temperatures, strong winds and sleet/snow showers. Also tricky underfoot conditions.

Forecast for Saturday 23 Dec 2023
Weather: Cloudy with persistent rain, heavy at times with the heaviest rainfall across Glencoe and Lochaber. Drier weather developing over the Trossachs in the afternoon.

Maximum wind: Lighter winds at first, then strong to gale force westerly winds developing during morning, average speeds 30 to 40mph with gusts 55mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance.

Low Cloud and visibility: Misty conditions with often very poor visibility and extensive cloud cover well down the hills. This will lead to navigational difficulties.

Temperature: **Glens:** 4 Celsius rising to 9 Celsius by afternoon.
At 800m: Plus 3 Celsius rising to plus 6 Celsius in afternoon.
Freezing level: 1100m soon rising above the summits.

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